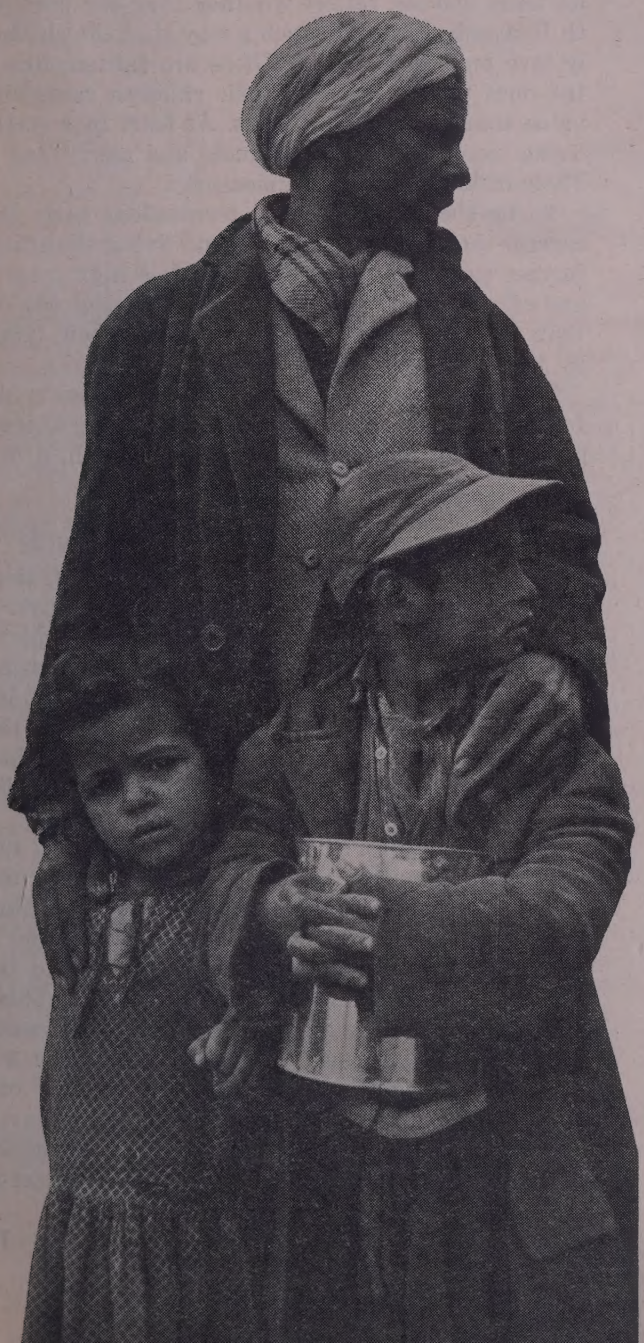
LEVEL ONE

JUNE 16, 1959

THE MENNONITE

OTHER FOUNDATION CAN NO MAN LAY THAN THAT IS LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST



In this issue

COVER
Photo courtesy of United Nations
ARTICLES
GUARD RAILS OF A CHRISTIAN HOME
By Daniel G. Regier.....371
YOU ARE NEEDED 372
ARE WE DOING ENOUGH? 373
PEACE—THE WAY OF THE CROSS
By Elmer Neufeld 374
DEPARTMENTS
EDITORIALS 370
Mennonite Men
DARE TO DEDICATE 376
Mennonite Youth
AN AMERICAN ABROAD 377
COMMUNIST YOUTH DEDICATION 379
OUR SCHOOLS 380
MCC NEWS AND NOTES 381
JOTTINGS 382
CONFERENCE NOTES 384

of things to come

June 15-20—Faith and Life radio speakers: Mennonite Biblical Seminary students
June 18-21—Northern Dist. Conf., Salem-Zion Church (North), Freeman, S. D.
July 4-8—Canadian Conference, Clearbrook, B. C.
West. Dist. Retreats, Camp Mennoscah:
July 6-11—Junior High I
July 13-18—Junior High II
July 20-25—Fresh Air Friendship Cp.
July 27-Aug. 1—High School I
Aug. 3-8—High School II
Aug. 29-30—Family (under age 45)
Sept. 5-7—Family (senior age)
Aug. 5-12—Ministers' and Church Workers' Retreat, Camp Friedenswald, Mich.
Aug. 12-20—General Conference, Bluffton, Ohio
Oct. 24-27—West. Dist. Conference

THE MENNONITE

Editor: J. N. Smucker. Associate Editors: J. Herbert Fretz, Robert W. Hartzler, Maynard Shelly, Menno Schrag, Cornelius J. Dyck. **Editorial Asst.:** Muriel Thiessen. **Layout Consultant:** Robert Regier.

VOLUME 74 **NUMBER 24**

editorials

FATHER—A PATTERN OF GOD When on Father's Day special thought is given to the place and influence of father, it is well to keep in mind that Jesus highly exalted the word when He referred again and again to God as Father.

Visiting chapel speakers at correction homes for boys are sometimes warned not to refer to God as Father because the boys' concept of a father is anything but fine and noble. Their fathers did not resemble God.

Before fathers begin to feel too satisfied with themselves, let them soberly reflect whether they are bearing the image of th Heavenly Father in such a way that the children will naturally love and respect God. There are fathers like that. They are the ones who pass on to their children something of far more value than money and things. At least in a small way they are living examples of the goodness and mercy and justice of God. Their influence cannot be measured.

To be such a father is a tremendous task. It requires more careful thought and planning and living than to be a successful farmer or businessman. It demands a high price in consecration and effort and faithful religious living. But the results are more than worth the cost, to fathers and to their families, as well as to the cause of Christ.

"Fathers, don't over-correct your children or make it difficult for them to obey the commandment. Bring them up with Christian teaching in Christian discipline" (Eph. 6:4, Phillips).

PREPARING FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE The meeting of the General Conference in Bluffton, Ohio, August 12-20, will be an outstanding event in various ways. The beginning of the centennial year and the pageant to depict the origin and hundred years' growth of the General Conference will be unique.

A tremendous amount of work is being put into this conference. The creating of the historical pageant, the preparing of the reports and plans for the future of our world-wide work, the messages of inspiration and information—all will require hours and days of faithful work.

The planning for the care of the delegates and visitors is in itself a tremendous task, but the Bluffton community has been working on this for over a year and will do a fine job.

Now if all this amount of preparation in so many different ways goes into the building of this conference, let those attending the conference also do some preparing. This is not a mere entertaining feature where a few do all the work and the rest "enjoy" their labors. This conference will be a success to the extent that all attending prepare themselves and assist in the general preparation by putting their own hearts in order and coming in the true spirit of our Lord, remembering in devout prayer the whole scope and work of the Conference.

Guard Rails of a Christian Home

Daniel G. Regier

From the president's sermon Pacific District Conference Barlow, Oregon, June 10-14

WE ARE AWARE that the welfare of the nation, the church, the work of our conferences, and the individual, depends largely on the noble or evil influences of the home. Often the term "homebuilders" is used as a name for an organization made up of parents with small and growing children.

There are valuable comparisons that can be made as one considers the building of a house and the building of a home. It is very interesting to note the specific instruction that God gave to the children of Israel, His chosen people, when they would build a house. In that early day, they had flat roofs on their houses. These flat roofs were used as areas that might afford quiet meditation, or social activities. Instruction is given in Deut. 22:8, "When thou buildest a new house, then thou shalt make a battlement (guard rail) for thy roof, that thou bring not blood upon thine house, if any man fall from thence."

As homebuilders, there are certain guard rails that we have the responsibility of providing. God has entrusted children to us as parents and we have responsibilities to provide protection for them. We think of the roof of this house as needing protection on four sides. Let us consider four areas of parental responsibility.

THE BATTLEMENT OF AN EDUCATION

Grandfather realized that his education was inadequate and he was willing to sacrifice so that his children could be better prepared to meet the demands of a changing world. Now the child has become a parent, and again there is the determination that the grandchild shall be encouraged in an extended period of education if desire and aptitude are present. As Christian parents, we desire that our children provide able leadership in their area of responsibility. However, we must ever remember that the education that prepares a person in the spiritual realm is of first importance. Our homes, our churches, our Christian colleges can provide the challenge that students need as they face decisions regarding future vocations.

THE BATTLEMENT OF A DEVOTIONAL LIFE

While still very young, the child will clearly observe the reverence that parents have for the Bible. It should be one of the first books that the small child recognizes and is able to identify. The time when the family daily gathers for devotions will leave a lasting impression on the observant child. The other members of the family may be busy and away for the day's responsibilities, but the little child will remember that Mother would daily read the Word for herself in the quietness of their home.

A young man was working in an area many miles from home. One day a friend from the home community visited the young man. The moments together were precious as they spoke about their home community, a subject of vital interest to both. Before leaving, the friend posed this question, "Now that you are away from home, what is it that you miss the most?" The young man hesitated a bit, and then spoke with a trace of emotion, "That which I miss the most would be the family devotions that we had at home. It was the custom in my home that after the Scripture had been read, the entire family would form a circle by joining hands and then Dad would lead in prayer. I was the oldest, so I would be next to Dad and place my hand in his. That experience has left a lasting impression."

THE BATTLEMENT OF DISCIPLINE

The child is born and appears as a sweet bundle of innocence. However, early in life there are signs that not all of the child's desires are noble according to the standard of the Bible. We are instructed to "Train up a child in the way that he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." The Scriptures also teach that the Heavenly Father will at times chasten (or discipline) His children, because He loves them (Heb. 12:6). As parents who love our children, we have a related responsibility. This does not necessarily mean only punishment for evil, but it includes encouragement in that which is noble and right.

THE BATTLEMENT OF LOVE

We have considered three guard rails that parents need to erect in the building of a home. These might be considered as having three sides enclosed. For the completion of the area of responsibility, let us remember that a Christlike love is of utmost importance. A child may be given ample supplies for physical needs, a good education, and many other opportunities, but if the parents do not have a sincere Christian love, that child will be deprived of one of life's greatest needs.

There are certain age spans when children give an unappreciative response to parental love. They have an inflated evaluation of their own abilities and importance. Parents become discouraged when their expressions of Christian love produce a negative response. Someone has correctly said, "The person who least deserves love, is the one who most needs it." This applies so definitely to our working with others in business, in the church, and also in the home. In due time, the son or daughter begins to appreciate more and more the Christian home and the love that was expressed there. He begins to realize that the guard rails of education, a devotional life, discipline, and love were of vital importance in the early years of his life.

YOU ARE NEEDED

PERHAPS NEVER in the whole history of man on this earth have there been so many displaced persons. Shifting national boundaries, internal rebellions, and outreaching aggression have moved hundreds of thousands from Germany, Hungary, Jordan, Korea, China, and elsewhere, to seek refuge in a place not their home. Across the East-West streets of Berlin, desperate people are still escaping to freedom. Out of China into Hong Kong and Formosa, still more refugees come, hungry and homeless. Of the three million in Hong Kong, one million are refugees! And the end is not yet in sight.

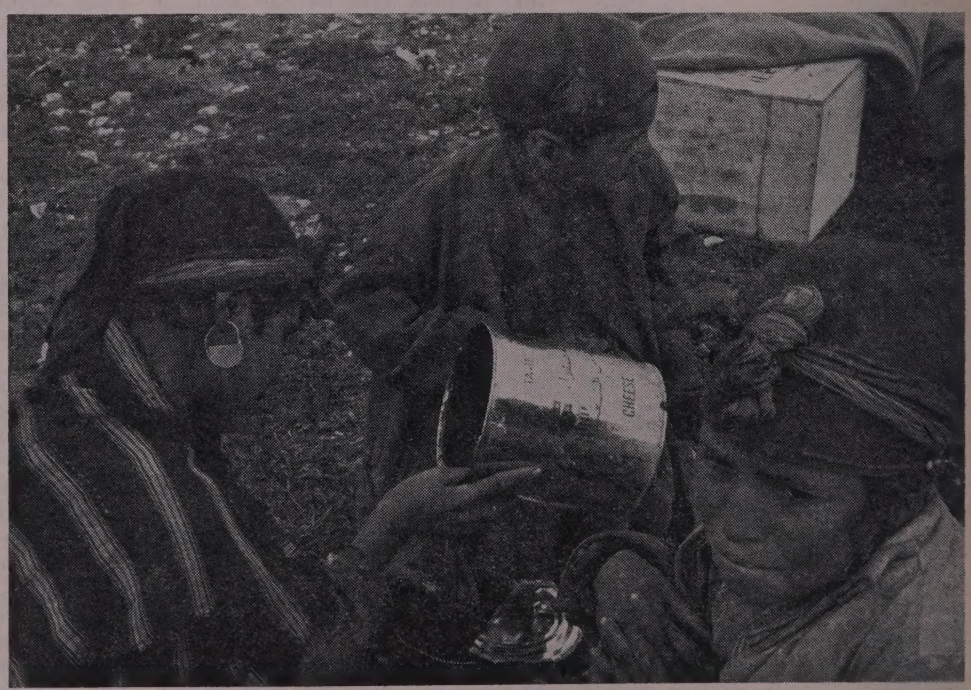
For these people, United Nations has declared July 1959 to July 1960 as World Refugee Year. Mennonites are asked to participate by sharing MCC material aid with those who need help.

In a recent report by Robert W. Miller (to the Material Aid Advisory Committee in Chicago at the end of April) is a summary of what is being done and what now needs to be done.

"The program in Germany includes food and clothing supplies to needy individuals, welfare and educational institutions, and packages mailed to the East Zone." Some supplies maintain field workers (Kansas Mennonites gave a shipment of flour for the latter purpose). Unsettled refugees and destitute aged in Austria also receive material aid. Unique MCC items such as Christmas bundles and canned meat are in demand; some of the clothing goes to Iron Curtain countries.

"The Arab refugee problem remains unsolved." MCC is responsible for clothing refugees in the Jericho area; the program may be enlarged to care for an additional refugee camp. In Korea, "those who need material aid . . . include orphans and widows in institutions, disaster victims, and slum dwellers and others living on a submarginal level." Less material aid is needed here than before.

In Hong Kong, there are about 50,000 people to the square mile and some 300,000 people with no shelter. The situation is not getting better but worse. In Vietnam, "the sick, orphans, lepers, and others who are in institutions, and those who suffer from disasters such as typhoons,



Of some 180,000 refugees from Algeria now in Morocco and Tunisia, many are in a desperate situation. Here a refugee mother prepares a meal for her hungry children using foodstuffs donated by the United States through the League of Red Cross Section.

THE MENNONITE is a weekly religious journal devoted to the interest of the Mennonite Church and the cause of Christ. Published every Tuesday except the weeks of July 4 and Dec. 25 by the Board of Education and Publication of the General Conference Mennonite Church. Entered at North Newton, Kansas, post office as second class matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage: section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917. Authorized Jan. 22, 1910. Subscriptions $2.50; foreign $3.00. Mail subscriptions and payments to Mennonite Publication Office, North Newton, Kan., or 720 Main, Newton, Kan. Address manuscripts for publication to J. N. Smucker, Editor, THE MENNONITE, Woodward Place, Goshen, Ind. **Postmasters: change of address Form 3579 to 720 Main, Newton, Kan.**

fires, floods" need help.

Material aid shipments to Indonesia have been relatively small "because our workers have not been in good position to distribute material aid and the ocean freight has been expensive." Ocean freight reimbursement on relief shipments to Indonesia will make the cost of future material aid less, making possible more relief to disaster victims. MCC is distributing surplus milk in a large refugee colony at Calcutta, India. A vehicle to haul supplies is needed, as well as clothing and bedding.

Ocean freight reimbursement and duty free entry to Paraguay help make available to destitute Mennonites and others such items as Christmas bundles, leprosy bundles, and hospital supplies.

What Is Needed Most?

The material aid report says that "general items of good used and new clothing are needed and appreciated in all areas. This is the backbone of the program in Jordan, and there seems to be no substitute for simple Western-style clothing in Austria and Korea also."

This coming summer and fall will be the time of a special used clothing drive. If you have already given all used clothing available, you can always look for bargains at second-hand stores, which may have some garments at a low price, in good condition but perhaps needing minor repair; and in end-of-season mail-order house catalogs, which list new clothing at low prices, usually with no choice as to color or style.

Women will be particularly interested in MCC plans for cutting Asian-style garments. Since much new clothing is made by women's groups, the garments might as well be made as appropriate as possible for the country in which worn. Asian garments are wanted most in Hong Kong and Vietnam. Later this year, special patterns may be available.

"Workers report that Christmas bundles are still one of the best and most appreciated gifts. In several areas, such as Jordan and Vietnam, it gives workers an opportunity to do something for groups of children not usually reached. The tropical bundles seem to have proved to be an especially good idea in Vietnam, Indonesia, and Paraguay; and Vietnam wants only tropical bundles in 1959." Leprosy bundles "are appreciated as a special gift to an especially unfortunate group of people."

More meat was canned in this 1958-59 canning year than in the last season, and it is hoped that the 1959-60 canning season will be as fruitful. MCC plans to study distribution of surplus commodities with the goal of reaching acute needs not yet touched. Another area of sharing has been the joint CROP programs in Kansas and Oklahoma, in which anyone can contribute to relief above and beyond their regular giving.

These are some of the ways in which Mennonites can participate in World Refugee Year. Plan your sharing now, remembering that no matter how little you may feel you have in comparison to others around you, you are wealthy in the eyes of the refugee. Through material aid, you can reach someone with God's love.

Christians Facing Great Moral Issues

III. ARE WE DOING ENOUGH?

(This is the third in a series of short articles by the Board of Christian Service dealing with issues to face at the Bluffton Conference.)

QUITE clearly, we may never be able to meet all the challenges of world-wide evangelism, hunger, illness or ignorance within our generation. By what guides shall we then judge if we are really doing enough? How can we check ourselves on our stewardship?

• Why do we have this witness? Is it simply because of the great needs of the world, or as a response and an outgrowth of our faith and commitment to Christ? If we give food, clothes and send workers only because people are starving and cold we will soon be frustrated. If we share "in the name of Christ" because God has also freely given us all things, then we will be blessed. Service is sharing and sharing is a service which we can do for Christ.

• The most important ingredient of any service we give is the workers who are sent. Our church today has an unparalleled opportunity to reach out into the far-flung and previously inaccessible corners of every continent with a personal testimony and demonstration of the full Gospel of Christ. We need more workers today: missionaries, pastors, writers, relief workers, Paxmen, summer service volunteers, nurses, and people in the professions. In short, the church needs *your* service. The rewards of personal service by far compensate for the changed plans you will make. The Gospel can only be spread by people like *You*.

• It is inescapable that in today's world even religion involves money. Often you ask, "How much should we be giving?" One answer has been to suggest that we need about $20.— per year per member for missions and about $6.— per member per year for relief and service. Many will want and should give more; many of us have given only a part of this amount. Sharing our earnings as a response to all that God has done for us, then becomes an act of worship which God will accept and bless. We can give as we dedicate all our resources to Christ, by serving through the channels of our church.

PEACE--the way of the cross

Elmer Neufeld
From an address to the MCC annual meeting

MAN'S first act of sin as recorded in the Bible was committed in proud ambition and rebellion against God.
Satan enticed the woman: "When you eat of the fruit you will be like God."

This first act was soon followed by another,
committed in jealousy and hatred.
"Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him."
God called: "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground."

And so through the ages, the voice of the brother's blood
has continued to cry to God. . .
The history of mankind is filled with rebellion against God,
and strife with the brother man.

In rebelling against God,
man has also turned against his brother.
The voice of the brother's blood still cries from the ground. . . .
Selfishness, jealousy, pride, and hate
have set man against man.

Some have lived in luxury and greed,
while the children of the brother went to sleep hungry and cold.
Husband has left wife, and wife has left husband,
leaving little ones with scarred hearts
in bitter loneliness and rejection.

Man has put his brother in chains and used him like the ox of the field,
driving him on with the biting lash of the whip.
Man has set himself up in classes and castes,
claiming to be superior to his brother,
and thus claiming more privileges for himself.

Man has turned against his brother of another color,
and thus deprived him of decent homes, schools, churches,
and the love of God expressed through fellow Christians.

And finally, most devastating of all, man has taken up the chant and the instruments of war,
to kill and to maim,
to plunder and to glory,
leaving countless families homeless and fatherless.

Until today, when the scars of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are not yet gone,
man is threatening anew to set the world aflame by long range missiles and atomic bombs.

But most devilish of all, the religious people, including the Christian church,
have sought the blessing of God for these fiendish acts.
In the name of God, man has taken up sword and gun.
In the name of God, man has rejected his brother of another race.
And even as we seek to win our brother to God
We are tempted to condemn him in pride and resentment.

IN THE MIDST of man's rebellion and strife—when the fulness of time was come,
God took action.

He came!
He came and dwelt among us!
". . . the word of God became a human being and lived among us." (Phillips)

He did not come in vengeance to punish us according to our sins.
"He hath not dealt with us after our sins;
nor rewarded us according to our iniquities."
(Ps. 103:10)
He came in compassion and love,
to walk among us,
to bind our wounds,

to bear our burdens,
to forgive our sins,
to carry them to the cross.

And when He was on the way to the cross, He called His disciples to himself and counseled them:
"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself
and take up his cross and follow me."

Our witness is to Jesus Christ,
to a new way of life in Him,
to the way of the cross.

The trouble is that the gospel has been distorted,
it has been torn apart,
and sometimes Christ is hardly recognizable.

An American churchman has said:
"The Western world has torn Christ from the cross;
we now have a cross-less Christ."

The Communist world has picked up the cross,
causing a Russian tourist girl to remark:
"You kiss your crosses; we carry ours."

I talked to a minister in Little Rock, the leader of a church.
Though he preaches salvation by the blood of the cross
he seemed to know little of the reconciliation that
was wrought at such great cost at Calvary,
that removed the walls of partition.
What kind of Christian love is this,
that seeks the salvation of the Negro for all eternity,
but is unwilling to worship with him for one hour here on earth?

Yes, there is power in the blood, but it will be shown forth more clearly when we are more willing to follow in the steps that led our Master to Golgotha.

To whom shall we witness of this way of life?
Certainly to fellow Christians,
to those with whom we can reason together from the Word,
to those with whom we can share the testimony of our Christian experiences . . .
that we might have unity.

But let us not be deceived.
There is also need for a peace witness to the non-Christian world.
Not that we would bring them to this way of life outside of Christ.
But that we might again show forth more clearly Christ and His way of life.

Too often the world no longer knows what kind of Christ we are offering them.
Does He carry the Bible in one hand
and armaments in the other?
Is He a member of the church on Sunday,
and of a White Citizens council during the week?
Have we no burden for those who suffer wrongs?
Do we no longer hunger and thirst after righteousness?

The Christian Church has lived this way too long.
And the communist world has taken full advantage.
Much of the Far East is already outside of our reach.
Africa is seething . . . since the New Year there have been rumblings in the Belgian Congo.
How have we prepared for this day?

Most of all, we must yet speak to ourselves,
as individuals and as a Mennonite church.
As Mennonite people we have been gratified that there is more openness to our testimony,
we are even proud of our history.

But even though telling the Mennonite story is easier today,
this does not mean that the way of the cross has been paved with gold!
Not everybody talking about the cross is bearing it.
Jesus did not say to the rich young ruler,
"I'll send you a book about our new movement."
He said, "Come follow me!"
This message is no toy to play with on Sundays.
Sometimes it seems that we should keep silence—for fear of hollow mockery.

One of our workers has suggested that our witness is too often from a pedestal,
rather than from real involvement and personal commitment.

We preach sacrifice,
but most of the sacrifice seems to be made for ourselves,
our cars, our homes, entertainment, our own families.

And this matter of sacrifice must also apply to our church organizations—MCC, conferences, boards, committees, whatever they be.
God forbid that our organizations set up for His service will stand in the way because of selfishness, jealousy, and pride.
He that loseth his life will find it.

Let us work together to establish the fellowship of Christians, reaching around the globe,
Christians that have rejected prejudice, nationalism, strife and war.
A clear testimony to those who have not yet found the new way of life.
Ready to bind up and heal,
Rather than to maim and kill,
to love and reconcile,
rather than to hate and splinter.

Working toward genuine oneness in Christ,
that the world may know that He was sent by God.

Mennonite men

Dare to Dedicate

A GRADUAL change has taken place in church responsibility in our generation. In past years when the minister's training was limited, the laymen of the church felt a greater responsibility in doing the work of the church; however, today is a day of specialization, and the trend of the time is also toward specialized church responsibility. It is so easy for the layman to fall asleep and let the trained minister carry the burden of church work.

We are all thankful that the minister is better trained today than in past years, but the fact that many laymen have largely lost their sense of church responsibility is to be deeply regretted. The minister, though he be well trained, alert, and dynamic, cannot possibly carry the full responsibility of all the work that needs to be done in and by the local church.

The Layman's Mission Field

There are a number of areas in which dedicated men can and should make greater contributions to the growth of the church. The first suggestion is in the field of Christian stewardship and Christian giving. Conference causes and institutions are nearly always limited in their scope of service by the amount of financial support that is received by the constituency. More people could be reached and a greater service could be rendered if more support would be forthcoming. Christian giving is a mission and service field in which every member of the church can labor. Too many times we are side-tracked in the high ideal of tithing by selfishness, greed, and the desire for personal gain and pleasure. We must be made aware of our opportunities in this matter of biblical stewardship.

The second suggestion is in the field of personal and public worship. Our mode of living today has a tendency to crowd out both the desire and the time that is required to meditate and worship God. With working mothers and an over-emphasis on all sorts of activities by the children, it is increasingly harder to establish and maintain the family altar. With a loss of a personal devotional life, there is also a decline in public church worship. It is so easy for the worship service on Sunday morning to become routine and meaningless by preoccupation and thoughtlessness. Dare we suggest that on occasions dedicated laymen take more part in the worship services even to the extent of taking charge of a Sunday morning service occasionally?

The third suggestion for increased lay responsibility is in the realm of missions and a concern for the lost and the unchurched. The task of evangelizing the lost can never be accomplished by the minister and missionary alone. The dedicated lay Christian is a witness for the Gospel. Many times the encouragement in the form of a spoken word or in exemplary living of the Christian business, professional, or laboring man is the most powerful witness to the Gospel that the man of the world can see or experience. So often the unchurched man cannot be reached by the minister's sermon but can definitely be reached by the example and word of a dedicated Christian neighbor or fellow-worker.

Sermons of Service

The fourth area in which lay members can take more responsibility is the area of Christian service and discipleship. Many people throughout the world and in our nation have needs that can be met by consecrated members of the church. Some of the greatest opportunities for witnessing for Christ come in the form of rendering service to our fellow men.

Christian service begins in the local church fellowship. What church in our Conference cannot use more willing and dedicated men to teach Sunday school classes, lead children and adult choirs, visit shut-ins—the sick and the aged, serve on boards and committees, and a multitude of other services? Many times these opportunities go begging not for lack of talent among the membership but mainly from lack of dedication on the part of the men who possess these talents.

Christian service also needs to be extended beyond the local church. Community endeavors also need the leavening action of the dedicated church man. Hospitals, homes for the aged, schools and colleges, and other institutions need the support of Christian men to keep them on a high moral and spiritual plane. These institutions do not only need the spiritual influence that the dedicated men can give, but they can be helped greatly by the service that both skilled and unskilled laborers with their tools and equipment can render.

In a larger sense, Christian service should go beyond the immediate community. Disaster work has proved to be a great opportunity for service and witness by Mennonite groups all over the land. Disaster units need to be better organized so that more efficient service can be performed and more spiritual help rendered in periods of calamity. Service minded laymen also need to influence their sons and daughters to accept voluntary and Pax service. Consecrating their children to Christian service is the greatest service that many parents can ever hope to render.

In summing up the responsibilities that Mennonite Men can accept in the work of the church and for the cause of Christ, the question is not one of opportunity. Opportunities are almost unlimited. The relevant question is: How dedicated are we as Mennonite Men to our faith in Christ and to the work of His church? If we are dedicated, we as laymen will meet the challenge and the opportunities that present themselves.

Editor: Richard F. Graber, Moundridge, Kan.

"I for one am convinced that if fellows in the States knew what Pax is like, our Akron headquarters would be flooded with applications." So writes

An American Abroad

by Jim Juhnke

Perhaps the most significant opportunity of Paxmen in Europe is the contact with the European people and culture in the context of Christian service. The European Pax program, unlike some other American installations in Europe, is established and organized to this end. Paxmen are encouraged and given opportunity to meet the German folk and to learn to know them. At first we're curious to know what makes them different. Soon, however, we realize it's a question of what makes *us* different. Because, you see, in Europe *we* are the foreigners. Everyone notices us with our accents, hands in pockets, or water on the table. *We* are the ones who stick out like sore thumbs, wondering why it is that people spot us as foreigners by just looking at us. This process of learning to know, adjusting to, and finally appreciating the European people and culture is certainly educational. And we Paxmen are thankful for a program which is designed to capitalize on these opportunities.

For Example . . .

Take a few of my experiences during the past few months as secretary in the Frankfurt Pax office. During Easter vacation, at the suggestion of Elmira Kliewer, former MCC secretary, I visited the Ernst Landes family on a large Mennonite Hof near Heilbronn, Germany. After a scenic trip from Frankfurt along the Bergstrasse and Neckar River Valley to Heilbronn I arrived in Lautenbach, where I met the Landes family which included six husky young boys, ages sixteen to twenty-eight. The following two days were filled to the brim as I observed the farm work on the Hof, learned something of the history of the family including war experiences, played in a brass band with the "Lautenbachers," hunted Easter eggs, took part in the Sunday morning Easter worship service and communion with the Heilbronn Mennonite congregation, went on a hair-raising ride in an old auto which is the pride and joy of the Landes boys, and ate more wonderful German cooking than I care to tell about. I especially appreciated the opportunity to talk with these fellows about pacifism. In the course of history the German Mennonites have all but lost the principle of conscientious objection to war. A Pax witness in this area is sorely needed.

A few weeks later I had an opportunity to spend a week end in the home of a German Evangelisch pastor near Kassel. Pastor Hoehn and his wife also provided the excellent German hospitality which I am beginning to take for granted. In our discussion I found it very interesting to hear Pastor Hoehn say that the Evangelisch "Landeskirche" concept is possibly a bit confusing in the relationship between church and state and that they have "much to learn" from American protestants on this. Indeed, I replied, we have much to learn *from each other.*

Another American-German contact on the inter-Mennonite level is the periodical German Mennonite youth days. May 9-10, I, along with other Paxmen, attended the Jugendtag at Stuttgart where over 125 German Mennonite young people met for fellowship, worship, and discussion of problems confronting youth of today. The Enkenbach choir, led by a Paxman, was part of the program, and Lowell Goering, Enkenbach unit leader, gave a short explanation concerning the work and purpose of Pax.

The Martin Krochow family in Frankfurt represents another type of contact. These folks are not Mennonites. As a matter of fact, they know almost nothing about Mennonites. Their young children are interested in Mickey Mouse, skyscrapers, and American stamps, and I am privileged to be their number one authority. But when I see the question on their faces when I refuse the wine they purchased especially for my visit, I have another opportunity to explain how being a Christian makes a difference.

And of course, in Frankfurt we have the opportunity of working with a German Mennonite congregation which worships in the same building where we have the MCC and Pax offices. Included is Sunday morning German Sunday school class, bi-weekly, youth meetings, and singing in the Frankfurt young people's choir.

These opportunities for contact with the European people and culture are just one part of a Pax experience. The more one learns the language and becomes acquainted with the situation, the more the opportunities widen. For Christian service, fellowship, travel, and education all wrapped in one package —Pax is the thing!

Youth Office
722 Main Street
Newton, Kansas
June 16, 1959

YOUth
United States and Canada and parts beyond

Hello!

Here is your information about the Young People's Union activities as they will be taking place Aug. 5-20 at Camp Friedenswald in Michigan and at the General Assembly in Bluffton, Ohio.

First, about the YPU retreat: William Block will be the dean of the retreat which will be held simultaneously with the missionary and church workers retreats Aug. 5-12 at Camp Friedenswald. Bill is vice president of the Young People's Union and newly appointed minister of the Vancouver Mennonite Mission in Vancouver, British Columbia. Other staff members for the retreat will be Dan Graber, registrar; David Schroeder, Bible study leader; Frank Epp, speaker; George Wiebe, music leader; and Oswald (Ozzie) Goering, recreation leader. The daily program for the retreat appears at the top of the opposite page.

At the General Assembly in Bluffton, Aug. 12-20, the YPU will hold two business sessions—Friday, Aug. 14, at 1:30 p.m. and Tuesday morning, Aug. 18, at 9:00 a.m. At these there will be reports from the districts, president, secretary-treasurer, about the youth worker, on the Gulfport project, publications, and Voluntary Service. Highlight of this year's sessions will be the election of a new YPU president and secretary-treasurer. Harris Waltner has served as president for the past six years and Helen Neufeld Coon has been secretary-treasurer for three years.

Saturday night will be youth night at the conference and the YPU will be in charge of the program. Erwin Goering and Vincent Harding are special speakers for the occasion and will speak on the topics of building on Christ among the peoples of the world and in the city. Music will be given by the youth choir, to be directed by George Wiebe, and by the Bethel College Chorale. Milton Harder, new youth worker, will lead in devotions at the service.

The young people's morning worship service, Sunday Aug. 16, will be in First Mennonite Church and is being planned by John Bertsche and Jake Friesen who is pastor of the church and YPU advisor.

Are you wondering about delegate privileges? Every General Conference Mennonite Church youth group and those who have been officially accepted are privileged to send voting delegates. According to the YPU constitution, each youth fellowship is entitled to one vote for every fifteen young people or fraction thereof between the ages of 12 and 30. Every church is encouraged to send as many delegates as it has votes. However, when that is not possible, provision is made for proxy votes. A delegate may cast one delegate vote and a maximum of five proxy votes. Visitors who are not delegates are invited to attend all meetings.

Our goal is to have every General Conference Mennonite church represented by one or more young persons. Make plans now for the General Assembly. Elect your delegates to the conference. Help your delegates get to conference. Pray for the conference.

Yours,
The YPU Executive

Daily Program for YPU Retreat

Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1959
6:00 p.m.—Supper
7:15 p.m.—Vesper service
8:15 p.m.—Evening program

Thursday to Tuesday, Aug. 6-11, 1959
7:30-8:15—Bible Study
8:30 a.m.—Breakfast
9:30 a.m.—Addresses "Evangelism and YOUth"
10:15 a.m.—Discussion
11:15 a.m.—Recess
12:30 a.m.—Dinner
6:00 p.m.—Supper
7:15 p.m.—Vesper service
8:15 p.m.—Evening program

Sunday, Aug. 9, 1959
7:45- 8:15 a.m.—Morning prayer
8:30 a.m.—Breakfast
9:30-10:30 a.m.—Sunday school
10:45-11:45 a.m.—Worship service
12:30 p.m.—Dinner

Communist Youth Dedication

From Berlin, Paxmen Loren Lind (Salem, Oregon) reports on a ceremony which is the atheist's equivalent to Christian baptism.

"Pie in the sky is the church's obsession," say the socialistic leaders of East Germany, as they prepare a recipe of their own.

The socialistic youth dedication is one exercise which most clearly illuminates this trend. Designed on the general pattern of the Evangelical confirmation service, it substitutes social values for spiritual ones. Social responsibility (in the eastern version) is made the supreme lesson and world peace the stated goal. It is to this discipline that East German youth are trained and indoctrinated.

On two Sunday mornings I attended such dedication services. They were held in the "Theater of Friendship" near Stalin Avenue in East Berlin.

The ceremony was held at nine o'clock in the morning. We arrived at 8:15, getting good seats. Promptly at 9:00 the curtain went up revealing a small orchestra backed by a large children's chorus. First of all a short, stocky woman recited a poem. Then the 110 candidates marched in to the applause of the theater full of "comrades."

The main speech was made by a leader of the SED (Socialistic Unity Party). Judging from his oratory it was a good sermon. Judging from the contents, it was a typical East German political speech. He accused the western governments of being enemies of mankind, warmongers, disciples of Hitler, Fascists. "How can Adenauer as a Christian be preparing for a third world war? They are Fascists, they are no Christians." He praised the "peace which came from the East" and socialism, the happiness of our life, and challenged the candidates with phrases like "life is a struggle of the laboring class, be good fighters for the victory of socialism."

The vow which the applicants made was threefold: (1) Are you ready to live for the happy life of the working class? (2) Are you ready to work for socialism? (3) Are you ready to work for friendship with the Soviet Union and all peace-loving people of the world? "Yes, that we promise," they answered.

The candidates then went to the stage in groups of six to receive their documents and books entitled UNIVERSE, EARTH, MAN. A proverb from Goethe, Marx, Lenin, or Ulbricht was given as a maxim for the young pioneers. Then a song, another poem by the lady, singing of the national hymn, and the dedicated youth marched out.

our schools

NEW MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

Gordon Corwin, teaching music in Kiowa High School, will come to Bethel College for a one year period to take charge of chorus work and assist in voice instruction, as announced by the office of the president.

Corwin is a graduate of Washburn University and holds a Master of music degree from the University of Wichita.

He has appeared in the Newton area as guest soloist in the "Elijah" and the "Passion According to St. John."

RESEARCH DONE AT BETHEL

Dr. Guy Hershberger of Goshen College is doing research in the

(Continued on next page)

Correction:

The credit line for "Please Use Ink . . ," appearing in the May 19, 1959 issue of Mennonite Youth, should have been "STRAIGHT, Standard Publishing Company."

The MENNONITE YOUTH section is sponsored by the Young People's Union of the General Conference. Editor, Muriel Thiessen, 3003 Benham Avenue, Elkhart, Indiana.

(Continued from page 379)

Bethel College Historical Library on the World War I period. Hershberger is examining the files of such leaders as J. W. Kliewer, P. H. Richert, and H. P. Krehbiel.

LITTELL VISITS

Dr. Franklin Littell spent some time on the Bethel campus June 2 and 3. On Monday evening he spoke in the Bethel College Mennonite Church on the need for a repentant church.

Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning were spent in the Historical Library. Several years ago Dr. Littell gave the Menno Simons lectures at Bethel College. He is on the faculty of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Georgia.

GRABER, FRETZ RETURN

Dr. Eldon W. Graber and Dr. Winfield Fretz, who have both had a sabbatical leave of absence, are returning to the Bethel College faculty next fall, according to President D. C. Wedel.

Dr. Graber is at the present time in Bluffton, Ohio. Upon returning to Bethel he will take the position of registrar, professor of education, and will be chairman of the division of teacher education.

Dr. Fretz will return in June from Paraguay where he is doing research work under a Guggenheim Foundation Scholarship. His research subject is "A Study of the Cultural Interaction of an European Ethnic Refugee Colony with Native Paraguayans." Dr. Fretz is returning as professor of sociology and chairman of the division of social sciences.

SKIP DAY AT CMBC

In spite of rainy weather and contrary to the ideas of the first and second year students, the seniors of Canadian Mennonite Bible College had a most enjoyable time on their traditional "skip" on Tuesday, May 26. The idea of the excursion is to skip out on classes and any other obligations and have a class picnic. Rev. Schroeder who accompanied the group closed the day with a devotional message centering around the theme "Living Stones," 1 Peter 2:3. In welcoming the seniors back on Wednesday (May 27) Rev. Poettcker described in detail the "lost feeling" that the remaining students had experienced on the previous day.

CMBC GRADUATE BANQUET

"Launch out" . . . . (Luke 5:4) was chosen as the theme for the graduate banquet on May 30. The gymnasium, the tables, and even the menu suggested sea life. The stage was the deck of a ship, the menu included sea shell and sailboat salads. Rev. Poettcker's prophecy revealed the possible future of the graduates and contained glimpses of the past. A humorous skit put on by the undergraduates featured six of the graduates after six years travelling (by boat) to Europe and Africa. Each of the groups as well as the seven who were not present had become notorious in his or her field. Dr. Paul Peters, who was an undergraduate when the first graduating class of CMBC launched out, gave a devotional message. He reminded us that our Conference was looking to us to enter Christian service and alleviate needs in the world. He also stressed humility, reminding us that the mark of an educated man is the realization that there is so much that he doesn't know.

SUMMER SCHOOL IN PROGRESS

Bluffton College summer school began June 9 with the first in a series of four three-week terms. Each of these sessions enables students to obtain three hours of college credit. Only one course is taken at a time and is completed at the end of the three-week period. Single course plan of class instruction has been welcomed by summer students. Concentration on one course avoids divided attention; it also allows the students to complete a three-week term and leave the schedule open for other summer activities.

Classes meet five mornings a week from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 and from 9:30 to 11:00 except on Tuesday morning when a half-hour chapel program is held.

Miss Ada Lapp of the college department of education is director of the summer school. Seventeen professors serve on the summer staff plus administration officals. Six of these instructors are not permanent faculty members but will only be at Bluffton College for the summer sessions.

STUDENT LOANS

Present and prospective Bethel College students who wish to apply for a loan under the national defense student loan program have until August 1 to enter their application, according to Earl Koehn, business manager of the college.

To date, over $12,000 has been set aside for this loan fund of which nine-tenths is provided by the federal government.

Preference is given to superior students and special consideration is given to those who prepare to teach or who indicate a superior capacity in science, mathematics, or foreign languages.

The special advantages of this loan program are that interest payments are low (3 per cent), neither interest nor principal need be paid while the student is in college, and teachers may reduce their loan up to 50 per cent as credit for teaching.

BLUFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Swiss Community Historical Society of Bluffton, Ohio, has been officially incorporated under the laws of Ohio. This incorporation culminates several years' efforts on the part of local people to establish a Swiss museum in this community. The incorporating committee consisted of Ezra Moser, Wilhelm Amstutz, Harry Bogart, Delbert Gratz, and Howard Raid.

The Society will provide for the collection and preservation or display of papers, books, records, relics, and other things of historic interest and to provide for the marking and preservation of historic sites and buildings. It also proposes to co-operate with the schools of the community in the teaching of state and local history, to co-operate with the libraries in the upbuilding of state and local history sections, to establish historical museums, and in general to carry on all activities appropriate for a historical society. It shall be nonsectarian and nonpolitical.

SWISS FESTIVAL

The annual Swiss Day Festival began at noon on Friday, June 5, with a basket dinner on the baseball green at Bluffton College. This dinner is open to all Swiss descendants and their friends, from Berne, Indiana, and Wayne County, Ohio, as well as those from the Bluffton-Pandora community.

MCC news and notes

PEACE WITNESS IMPORTANT

JAPAN—Representatives of Mennonite Missions in Japan meeting May 12 with MCC Executive Secretary William T. Snyder and Paul Kraybill, secretary of the Mennonite Mission Boards' Continuation Committee, concurred that a Christian peace witness in Japan is important and that it should be a part of the message of the churches to Japanese Christians. Snyder, in reporting the discussion, emphasized, "It is a pity that the Christian faith to most Asian people is a faith that condones war and thereby is not true to its own gospel. If Christian forces are to be effective in the Asian revolution that is now in process, they must not allow the Communists to preach peace, to monopolize the idea which is complete only 'in Christ.'" Attendants at the meeting in Nada-ku, Kobe, included Mennonite Brethren, General Conference Mennonite, (Old) Mennonite, and Brethren in Christ missionaries along with MCC Peace Section Worker Paul Peachey.

NEW MENNONITE SETTLEMENTS

BRITISH HONDURAS—Old Colony Mennonites are being welcomed into British Honduras as they seek to establish themselves in a new land, report MCC Associate Secretary Orie O. Miller and Paul G. Landis, voluntary service director for the Eastern Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities, after visiting there, May 27-29.

Regarding the new settlement Miller writes, "Early in 1958, Mennonite colonists from Mexico began settling here and seem to have established good rapport with government and people. Over 360 families totaling 1627 persons (775 are children under 14) are settled largely in three locations: one group on a 115,000 acre jungle land purchase in the extreme northwest corner known as Blue Creek settlement, a smaller group on an 18,000 acre purchase about fifty miles west of Belize and a scattered group (perhaps one-fourth of the total) on farms around Orange Walk sixty miles north of Belize. The latter group is planning to settle on a 17,000 acre purchase at Shipyard, nine miles south of Orange Walk."

The commissioners were favorably impressed with the good soil, the progress in land clearing, the mechanized pioneering, and the sturdily built living quarters at the Kleine Gemeinde Spanish Lookout colony. They observed, however, that British Honduras as a whole is underdeveloped, the people very poor by U. S. standards, and government resources limited, although the government is pushing development plans and encouraging rural immigration.

SYNDER OBSERVES DISTRIBUTIONS

HONG KONG — While visiting Hong Kong May 27-31, Executive Secretary William T. Snyder attended several food and clothing distributions to observe the principles under which MCC is operating. Snyder summarizes, "I am convinced that our workers, under Director Norman Wingert, are doing a very good job of distributing material aid. Mrs. Wingert's work at Kwong Wah Charity Hospital with the mothers has real significance. The hospital medical director indicated her approach is unique in reaching needy people. Our workers are relating strongly to the Christian churches and in many of the distributions, Chinese-language Christians give a word of spiritual food." Because of the proximity of Hong Kong to Red China it is difficult to determine how long Christians will have freedom to operate here; but for the present Hong Kong is open for service and there is great need among the refugees for a ministry "in the name of Christ."

NEW TYPE FEEDING STATION

KOREA—In May a new feeding station program was launched in Korea which proposes to convert the current nineteen MCC kitchens in and around the city of Taegu into fewer and more efficient feeding centers.

The first such kitchen to be opened has been in operation for a month and is working out very satisfactorily. Director J. M. Klassen reports:

"Instead of giving needy families milk and cornmeal in their raw state, which can be sold on the Korean market, we have selected a slum area in Taegu, erected a small building with cooking facilities, engaged a local man to operate this kitchen and are now feeding cooked cornmeal and milk "mush" to 1,000 needy children, expectant mothers, and old people. With the co-operation of local government officials, we have prepared lists and given tickets to the neediest in the area. Every other day they come with their own containers to receive their allotment, based on the number of people in their family. We strongly emphasize sanitation and hope that our control of materials will be more effective than in our previously operated milk kitchens. In the next few months we hope to build another nine such feeding stations."

For a number of years Korea has been top recipient of MCC material aid goods. Large quantities of meat, clothing, US government surplus flour, cornmeal, and powdered milk have been distributed among extremely needy children and families. But an ever-present problem has been the need for strict control, because many people are tempted to sell these products rather than use them.

PIONEER PAXMAN RETURNS

NEPAL—Otho Horst, one of two Paxmen to first set foot on Nepalese soil, arrived at his home in Clear Springs, Md., the end of May, after almost two and one-half years of service in the Himalaya Mountain kingdom. Horst and Earl Schmidt from Rosthern, Sask., joined the United Christian Mission to Nepal in November, 1956, as forerunners of a six-man team soon to work with the Mission in its school and hospital construction program. Both men spent most of their time at Tansen, Schmidt in construction of a new hospital and Horst as maintenance man.

"Every Sunday an open church service is conducted in the Nepalese language," reports Horst, "but the strongest testimony is the life we live. . . . The people are very friendly, loyal, and trustworthy. Though I looked forward to coming home, I certainly enjoyed my time of service in Nepal. If I had the opportunity, I'd do it all over again."

Currently five Paxmen are serving at three mission stations in Nepal. Plans are under way to send two more men there this summer.

jottings

BETHEL CHURCH, FORTUNA, MISSOURI: May 10, a consecration service was held for Danny and Pamala Garber and Kathryn Ann Porzelius. A Mother-Daughter Tea was held May 10. Plans are being made for vacation Bible school to be held soon. A new roof is being put on the church as the old roof was badly damaged by hail this spring.—Corr.

DYCK ACCEPTS CALL

FIRST CHURCH, NAPPANEE, IND.: For the last eight months we had seminary students Vernon Lohrentz and George Janzen filling the pulpit. Jan. 25 was missions day, with Lodema Short bringing the morning message. In the evening Leonard Kingsley told of his work as an agricultural missionary on the Island of Timor in Indonesia. Feb. 15, Martha Giesbrecht showed pictures and told of her work at our mission station in Japan. March 15-20 we held our pre-Easter services. In the absense of our student ministers, J. N. Smucker brought us the Easter morning message. On March 23 at our congregational meeting, the church by a unanimous vote extended a call, which was accepted, to Gordon Dyck to become our pastor for a three-year period, beginning the first of Sept. On March 1 a fellowship dinner was served, followed by a report of the survey made of our church by Gordon Dyck. April 5 was a singspiration led by Marvin Dirks. On this day the church was informed of the engagement of Martha Giesbrecht and George Janzen, the wedding to be in June. They are entering the mission field in Japan this fall. A farewell dinner and service was held for Martha and George on May 17. We wish them God's blessings as they go to Japan. Our oldest member, Mrs. Salome Pletcher, celebrated her ninetieth birthday April 10. She has always been a faithful attendant, and with her daughter attends services regularly. March 12 we held our Mother-Daughter banquet.—Corr.

FAMILY NIGHT

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, SANTA FE SPRINGS, CALIF.: April 12 the Kenneth Harolds, missionaries to Jamaica, spoke and showed slides of their work in the West Indies. April 15 was a Family Night dinner with guest missionaries Frank Mannings and D. W. Van Nattans. Later in the evening they gave a skit depicting the incidents of a missionary's day. One Sun. in April Pastor Hofstetter and Paul Goering of Upland exchanged pulpits. The pews, pulpit, and speaker's stand have now been installed. A Fuller Seminary gospel team had the evening service and participated in the Monthly Whittier Division Sing April 17 at our church. April 24-26, the Calif. Mennonite S. S. and C. E. Conference was held in Downey. Our second annual Mother-Daughter banquet was held May 8. Mrs. Marie Rohrig of Whittier was the guest speaker, with a good message and solo. May 10 we had our first child dedication, with Brother Manning in charge. May 11 the Women's Missionary Fellowship had as guest speaker Mrs. Franklin Wigg, with sound film of the work in India.—Edith Huser, corr.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

GOESSEL CHURCH, GOESSEL, KAN.: The midweek Family Night, with Bible classes for all ages, and Men's Chorus practice came to a close March 18. Enrollment in vacation Bible school, held the first two weeks in May, was 77, with eight teachers instructing. The C. E. program for the adults April 19 included the film *Split Level Family*. The Junior C. E. made scrapbooks and toys for the local hospital that evening. At a Mother's Day program, Mrs. Mary Becker Valencia gave an illustrated lecture on work in a Presbyterian school at Bogota, Colombia, S. A. A consecration service was held on Mother's Day for Natali Kay and Keven Jay Hiebert, Robert Wade Woelk, and Dean Ray Krehbiel. Marriages in recent months were Janet Marie Schmidt to Bill Collins; and Herman Rogalsky and Amanda Jantz Funk. D. V. Schmidt, age 73, passed away suddenly due to heart attack April 8. Funeral services were held April 11. C. Conrad Browne of Koinonia Farm, Americus, Ga., brought the morning message March 15 and spoke that evening in the high school. The following received baptism May 17: Kermit Bauman, Jolin Dirksen, Philip Dirksen, Harriet J. Klassen Hiebert, Kenneth Franzen, Donald Quiring, and Bonnie Schmidt. Received into church the same day were Mrs. Allen Schroeder, Mrs. Harold Unruh, Mrs. Howard Unruh, and Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Woelk. Union evangelistic meetings for five churches of this community were held May 3-10, with J. J. Esau as speaker. The annual business meeting of the Bethesda Hospital and Home for the Aged Assoc. held May 6. Plans for a new wing are under way.—Corr.

CHOIR CONCERTS

MAYFAIR CHURCH, SASKATOON, SASK.: A son, Randall Wayne, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Letkemen Feb. 27, and a son, Murray Thomas, to Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Bartel March 22. An octet from Swift Current Bible Institute gave a program March 15, singing selections appropriate to the Lenten and Easter season. March 22 the Senior Choir presented a program of Easter selections and numbers from *The Crucifixion*. Peter Funk from Valley Park, Sask., former president of the Mayfair Young People, had the evening message. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schellenberg have left Saskatoon to live in Watrous, Sask., where Henry has employment. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Friesen of Saskatoon celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary at their home with friends and relatives. The Junior Ladies' Aid held their annual Mission Sale on April 30, with the proceeds going to various mission fields, mission homes, Bible schools, Mennonite colleges, and the local church. We were privileged to have the Rosthern Jr. Choir with us May 3. The choir sang the *Creation*. May 10 twenty-four children were dedicated to the Lord with Elder P. G. Sawatzky officiating. A Mother's Day program was given by the Teen-Age Choir under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ens.

MISSIONARY COMMISSIONED

IMMANUEL CHURCH, DOWNEY, CAL.: The theme for the Calif. Mennonite S. S. and C. E. Convention was "All for Christ," and featured the following speakers: Bill A. Adams, J. Raymond Ton, and James A. Graham. Many from our church attended the Los Angeles Co. C. E. Convention in North Long Beach, May 1-3. Mrs. Dorothy Allen was commissioned to another term of missionary service May 3. The Allens are leaving for Africa. The Franklin Whigs, who are leaving soon for another term as missionaries to India, showed movies of their work and gave their testimony at the midweek service, May 6. Mrs. Ben Becker had surgery recently; we are happy to have Mr. and Mrs. Becker back to worship with us. Fred Rand has been very ill and at present is still in the hospital. The young people enjoyed an outing and picnic at Ervine Park, Sat., May 9. A S. S. teachers' and workers' meeting was held May 17. The film "Workers Together With God" was shown. May 18, a sacred concert choir program was presented by the Emmanuel Academy of Reedley, Calif.—Mrs. Leonard Kliewer, corr.

conference notes

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED

A report from the chairman of the lodging committee preparing for the triennial sessions of the General Conference Mennonite Church in Bluffton, Ohio, August 12-20, states that to date only a limited number of the delegates and visitors expected have registered their intention. The committee has requested that reservations be made by *July* 1 so that suitable accommodation can be found for all. It should not be taken for granted that the committee is informed unless a reservation blank has been sent in. The address is G. T. Soldner, 438 W. Elm Street, Bluffton.

INTERIM PASTOR

The Bethel Mennonite Church at Mountain Lake, Minn., has called as interim pastor Harold Warkentin, superintendent of parochial schools in Mountain Lake. Mr. Warkentin will serve the church until the arrival of the full-time pastor, Albert Gaeddert, Sept. 1.

VISITORS FROM S. AMERICA

Nelson Litwiller, president of *Seminario Biblico Menonita* in Montevideo, Uruguay, and Peter Wiens, a board member from the Fernheim Colony in the Paraguayan Chaco, will arrive in the United States the end of June. They will visit churches in Canada and the United States, reporting on the seminary and presenting the needs in view of the building program.

MISSIONARY ORIENTATION

The annual orientation course for new missionaries entering service under the General Conference Mennonite Church will be given at Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind., June 18-26. Because most of the prospective missionaries are studying at the seminary, courses will be given along with the regular schedule. Orlando Waltner, acting executive secretary for the Board of Missions, and Wilhelmina Kuyf, assistant executive secretary, are in charge of the orientation.

Also at this time, June 24-26, the Board of Missions will meet for its midyear session and will discuss special concerns.

WRITER'S CONFERENCE SPEAKER

James Banman of Hutchinson, Kan., will direct the Church News and Publicity section of the Christian Writers' Conference to be held in the Bethel College Church, North Newton, Kan., June 17-19. Mr. Banman has attended Bethel College and has several years' experience as journalist with the *Hutchinson Herald.*

The conference is sponsored by the Board of Education and Publication to help persons who in various areas related to the church must do some writing, such as ministers, church correspondents, book reviewers, committee secretaries, and others. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. June 17.

STATION WAGON PURCHASED

Mennonite Publication Office has purchased a station wagon to be used in the work of the Board of Education and Publication, particularly to transport books and supplies to conferences and church area workshops.

MUTUAL AID GROUPS VISITED

Dr. Howard Raid, secretary-treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Mennonite Aid Society, has been asked by this association to visit the twenty-two Mennonite Mutual Organizations in the eastern part of the United States and Canada.

The purpose of this study is to discover what Mennonite Mutual Aid Associations are doing and what these smaller organizations would like to have the Association of Mennonite Aid Societies do for them.

LEG AMPUTATION

In Charlesville, Belgian Congo, where Dr. and Mrs. John Zook of Portland, Ore., serve, medical work has interesting phases. Last month a patient with severe burns on her leg and foot sought help from the mission. The burn was more than a week old and she was losing tissue from the bone. After convincing the patient that amputation was absolutely necessary, for she was already becoming confused from the toxic reaction, Dr. Zook, for lack of bone tools, sterilized a hack saw and amputated the leg. The woman is now completely clear mentally, the wound has healed, and missionaries can witness to her of the gospel message that can bring life to her darkened soul.

into the beyond

PETER WIDMER, member of the Eicher Mennonite Church, Wayland, Iowa, was born October 18, 1881, and died on May 2, 1959.

JOHANN P. EWERT of Hillsboro, Kansas, and member of the First Church of Hillsboro, was born July 26, 1897, and died May 18, 1959.

CORNELIUS K. JANZEN, of Newton, Kansas, and member of the First Mennonite Church, Newton, was born March 29, 1885, and died May 14, 1959.

MARIE CLAASSEN, born November 9, 1912, died May 19, 1959, exactly thirty years after her baptism. She was a member of the First Mennonite Church of Paso Robles, California, and an invalid for over thirty years.

MARY SCHMIDT was born December 30, 1884, and passed away suddenly February 14, 1959. She was a member of the Alexanderwohl Church of Goessel, Kansas.

MRS. EMMA UNZICKER, of Collinsville, Ohio, and member of the Apostolic Mennonite Church, Trenton, Ohio, was born in 1870 and died May 15, 1959. She had been an invalid for many years.

JONAS L. GOERING, member of the Pretty Prairie Mennonite Church, Pretty Prairie, Kan., was born February 18, 1888, and died April 22, 1959.

PETER P. STUCKY, member of the Pretty Prairie Mennonite Church, Pretty Prairie, Kan., was born March 16, 1893, at Freeman, S. D., and died April 24, 1959.

DAVID ROY FRIESEN, son of Pastor and Mrs. Elmer R. Friesen, was born July 7, 1950, at Beatrice, Neb., and died May 16, 1959, at Pretty Prairie, Kan.

MILTON G. AUGSPURGER, of Parkerville, W. Va., and member of the Apostolic Mennonite Church, Trenton, Ohio, was born December 3, 1873, and died May 23, 1959.

NICK FAST, of Reedley, Calif., and member of the First Mennonite Church of Reedley, was born February 26, 1875, and died May 24, 1959.

Burton Fretz
Bluffton College
Bluffton, Ohio

conference notes

LOOKING TOWARD GENERAL CONFERENCE

. . . the complexities of living tend to becloud the essential issues at stake for the Christian church. It may well be that the centennial conference will not be remembered for beauty of administrative efficiency nor for the thrilling accounts of past accomplishments (these we take for granted). It may be that much of what the church of 1959 is doing will come under the indictment "doing things well, that need no doing." Deep down in our hearts we are waiting for a breakthrough of the power of the Holy Spirit, a breakthrough that cleaves asunder with the sword of the Spirit those things that count from those that do not. Beyond the conference the 'lonesome' delegate is confronted with the task of planting the essentials —the vision. This might be the year and the hour where the conference leadership could go beyond reporting their decisions and the plans. I must know how some of the basic decisions were arrived at and why the leadership feels that this challenge must find receptive and responsive hearts in the local congregation.

Henry H. Epp
Waterloo, Ont.

STAFF CHANGES

Mrs. Wanda Tieszen, North Newton, Kan., will go to Arizona this summer for short term mission service teaching Hopi Indian children in the mission school at Oraibi. Two of the teachers who have spent two years in the mission school will not be returning for the next school year. Erna Dirks of Virgil, Ont., will teach in her home community, and Katie Kehler of Abbotsford, B. C., will attend Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Also serving in Arizona beginning in September will be Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Voth of Newton, Kan., who last year returned from service in Taiwan. The Voths will be stationed at Hotevilla for four or five months. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Peters, who have served there for a number of years, will leave this fall for graduate studies.

General Conference mission stations in Arizona are located at Oraibi, Moencopi, and Hotevilla.

MINISTER TO GRACE CHURCH

Jack Kressly of Canton, Ohio, and a member of the First Mennonite Church of Wadsworth, Ohio, was licensed at the Grace Mennonite Church, Chicago, Sunday, May 17. The service was conducted by John T. Neufeld, assisted by A. J. Neuenschwander of Wadsworth. Mr. Kressly has been called to the pastorate of the Grace Church for a two-year period to give Mr. Neufeld opportunity to rest up from his recent heart trouble.

A candidate for hospital chaplaincy, Jack attended Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Bethany Biblical Seminary and graduated in May of this year from Bethany. He will take up his duties as pastor of Grace Mennonite Church on July 5, 1959.

PERSONALIZED GIFTS NOT DEDUCTIBLE

A release from Missionary News Service, Washington, D. C., dated May 1, 1959, gives the following information: "The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that 'personalized' gifts—including gifts to a mission board earmarked for a particular missionary—are not deductible for income tax purposes."

The release states that the church may designate amounts for specific missionaries, provided the money is to be used in the missionary's work, not for his personal benefit. You are therefore advised not to send directly to the Board of Missions gifts designated for certain missionaries. Channel your giving through your local church. Your church is privileged to earmark gifts for missionaries' salaries or their work.

conference stewardship

May 31, 1958, as compared to May 31, 1959